WLF F101:
Survey of
Wildlife Science

CREDITS: 2
PREREQUISITES: None
LOCATION: Online

INSTRUCTOR: Mark Lindberg
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COURSE DESCRIPTION
Introduce students to the concepts of wildlife science, management, and conservation. For the sake of completeness I use both the terms management and conservation, but I mostly use these terms interchangeably.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
The course introduces students to wildlife biology by considering 3 broad questions:

- What is the North American Model of Wildlife Management?
  - Students should be able to articulate the history, principles, and major figures of this model.
  - Students should be able to describe the role of various agencies involved and wildlife management.

- What is Science-Based Management?
  - Students should be able to identify the key features of scientific research.
  - Students should be able to describe what information is needed to conduct science based management.
Students should be able to apply the principles of structured decision making.

How do I get Involved in this Profession?

Students should participate in at least 10 lab activities and expose themselves to a range of possible experiences in this discipline.

COURSE READINGS/MATERIALS
All course materials will be provided online through Blackboard or other links.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR COURSE
Students must have regular access to a computer and the Internet to access online materials in Blackboard. Students will be expected to download course material as well as upload assignments.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS
This course will be delivered through online videos, audio interviews, and reading. Course materials will be linked in Blackboard. Class discussions are to occur primarily in the Blackboard discussion board. The lab activities are comprised of a number of types of opportunities for you to engage with Wildlife Management in a personal way and within your community. They may take the form of in-person or online training, in-person meetings, interviews with locals, or community meetings.

COURSE POLICIES
You are expected to progress through lab activities at a reasonable pace throughout the semester. If you wait too long, you will not complete enough required activities. Although the exams are “open book”, you are also expected to be able to communicate all the course material covered prior to the midterm and final exams.

As part of this course, you will be asked to participate in public spaces on the internet. For example, you may be asked to write a blog post, comment on someone else’s blog post, or post to online services like YouTube. You will create an account and a screen name for each of these services; it’s important to understand that the screen name you choose will be public to the world. If you do not wish to use your real name, we suggest using your university username (your login username for Blackboard or you may choose to use a nickname alias instead). If you are working in WordPress, from the Dashboard edit your profile and set your display name to the nickname of your choice. Contact your instructor directly if you have questions or concerns.

EVALUATION POLICIES

- Activities (students must complete 10 activities) – 7.5% for each activity
  - No partial credit for activities, if the activity not fully completed (e.g., incomplete report) you will receive a 0% until it is done.
  - Up to 2 bonus activities can be done for 5% each.
- Participation in Class Discussion Board - 5%
- Exams (Open Book)
Midterm - 10%
Final (Cumulative) - 10%

Grades
A >90%
B 89.9-80%
C 79.9-70%
D 69.9-60%
F <60%

“C” (including C+ and C-) indicates a satisfactory level of acquired knowledge and performance in completion of course requirements.

C– (1.7) is the minimum acceptable grade that undergraduate students may receive for courses to count toward the major or minor degree requirements, or as a prerequisite for another course. A minimum grade of C (2.0), however, MAY be required by specific programs for prerequisite and/or major/minor courses. Please consult specific program listings in the UAF Catalog.

C– (1.7) is the minimum acceptable grade required for all Core (X) Courses.

“D” (including D+ and D-) indicates a minimal level of acquired knowledge and minimal performance in completion of course requirements. This grade does not satisfy requirements for courses in the major, minor, Core, or graduate programs.

EXPLANATION OF NB/I/W GRADES
This course adheres to the UAF regarding the granting of NB Grades. The NB grade is for use only in situations in which the instructor has No Basis upon which to assign a grade. In general, the NB grade will not be granted.

Your instructor follows the University of Alaska Fairbanks Incomplete Grade Policy: “The letter “I” (Incomplete) is a temporary grade used to indicate that the student has satisfactorily completed (C or better) the majority of work in a course but for personal reasons beyond the student’s control, such as sickness, he has not been able to complete the course during the regular semester. Negligence or indifference are not acceptable reasons for an “I” grade.”

Successful, timely completion of this course depends on committing yourself early and maintaining your effort. Failure to submit assignments in a timely manner may result in faculty-initiated Withdrawal from the course, which can result in a W on your transcript.
ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
As described by UAF, scholastic dishonesty constitutes a violation of the university rules and regulations and is punishable according to the procedures outlined by UAF. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on an exam, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating includes providing answers to or taking answers from another student. Plagiarism includes use of another author’s words or arguments without attribution. Collusion includes unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work for fulfillment of any course requirement. Scholastic dishonesty is punishable by removal from the course and a grade of “F.” For more information go to Student Code of Conduct.

INSTRUCTOR RESPONSE TIME
This is the first time this course is being taught on-line so we appreciate your patience as we work out the kinks this semester. We will strive to respond to emails within 24 hours unless we otherwise note and we will attempt to return graded material in 48 hours, but no longer than a week.

HOW TO CHECK YOUR GRADE
To check your grades for assignments/quizzes and find comments from your instructor, click on the My Grades link in the sidebar menu. All assignments and any due dates are listed. If your instructor has left overall assessment comments, Click on the speech bubble icon to view overall comments and feedback.

If the score is for a test or quiz, the title of the test is a link. Then click on the check mark or your score to see results and feedback.

If the score is for an assignment, the title of the assignment is a link and by clicking this link you’ll be taken to your submission, grade and comments.

If you see a green exclamation point, your assignment has not been graded yet.

EXPECTATION OF STUDENT EFFORT
Students should expect to spend 5-8 hours per week on this class. Students are expected to complete the weekly assignments by their due dates. If circumstances arise that cause you to need extra time on any assignment(s), email your instructor for guidance. Extensions of due dates may be granted, but your instructor expects to be informed in advance if you are not able to submit your assignment on time. (Emergency situations will be dealt with as needed.) Students are expected to maintain a working backup plan to be implemented in the event of a computer malfunction or interruption of their normal Internet service during the course.

STUDENT PROTECTIONS AND SERVICES STATEMENT
Every qualified student is welcome in my classroom. As needed, I am happy to work with you, disability services, veterans’ services, rural student services, etc to find reasonable
accommodations. Students at this university are protected against sexual harassment and discrimination (Title IX), and minors have additional protections. As required, if I notice or am informed of certain types of misconduct, then I am required to report it to the appropriate authorities. For more information on your rights as a student and the resources available to you to resolve problems, please go to the following site: www.uaf.edu/handbook

SUPPORT SERVICES
Go to the Student Handbook (www.uaf.edu/handbook) for things like: academic advising, tutoring, library and academic support, disability services, computing and technology, veteran and military support, academic complaint and appeals, late withdrawals, “classroom” behavior expectations and more.

UAF eCampus Student Services
Helps students with registration and course schedules, provides information about lessons and student records, assists with the examination process, and answers general questions. Our Academic Advisor can help students communicate with instructors, locate helpful resources, and maximize their distance learning experience. Contact the UAF eCampus Student Services staff at 907.455.2060 or toll free 1.800.277.8060 or contact staff directly with our directory listing.

UAF Help Desk
Go to http://www.alaska.edu/oit/ to see about current network outages and technology news.
For technical questions, contact the Help Desk at:
  ● e-mail at helpdesk@alaska.edu
  ● phone: 450.8300 (in the Fairbanks area) or 1.800.478.8226 (outside of Fairbanks)

Effective Communication
Students who have difficulties with oral presentations and/or writing are strongly encouraged to get help from:
  ● UAF Department of Communication’s Speaking Center (907.474.5470, speak@uaf.edu)
  ● UAF English’s Department’s Writing Center (907.474.5314, Gruening 8th floor)
  ● CTC’s Learning Center (604 Barnette st, 907.455.2860).

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION
UA is an AA/E0 employer and educational institution and prohibits illegal discrimination against any individual: www.alaska.edu/titleIXcompliance/nondiscrimination.

ACTIVITIES
Complete 10 (7.5% each) with 2 additional bonus activities for 5% each possible
Completed Lab Activities can be submitted through Assignments in Blackboard
1. **Interview Agency Biologist**  
   Complete at least a 30 minute interview with an individual who is working in our profession, preferably someone working in an area of interest to you. Ask them questions about what it is like to do their jobs. Submit the recording of the interview along with 5 minutes of commentary from you.

2. **Moose Harvest Lab**  
   Attend moose harvest activity with ADF&G biologist and assist with butchering an animal that will be donated to a food bank. Arrangements are still being made, but we are targeting this activity in the Fairbanks area around Thanksgiving. Provide 1+ page report* of your thoughts about how harvest and hunters are part of the NA model of Wildlife Management.

3. **Attend Game Board Meeting**  
   Attend or review minutes from a Game Board Meeting. See [http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=gameboard.meetinginfo](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=gameboard.meetinginfo) for a list of meetings. Provide 1+ page report of your thoughts about a specific topic considered at the meeting.

4. **Participate in Citizen Science Program**  
   Levels of involvement will be decided on an individual basis. Reporting will be via evidence of the information that you collected. UAF is putting together a list of citizen science opportunities ([https://www.uaf.edu/sustainability/cfe/cscience/](https://www.uaf.edu/sustainability/cfe/cscience/)) and many others are available at a national level ([https://www.citizenscience.gov/](https://www.citizenscience.gov/)).

5. **Attend Scientific Presentation**  
   There are numerous opportunities and some can be attended via distance (webinars). Report what you learned from the presentation, including selfie to show you were there.

6. **Read article from Applied Journal** (e.g., Journal of Wildlife Management)  
   Submit a summary of the paper in a report along with citation of the article.

7. **Listen to Podcast related to Wildlife Management**  
   There are numerous podcasts that qualify including for example Meateater ([https://www.themeateater.com/listen/meateater](https://www.themeateater.com/listen/meateater)) and many listed at this site ([https://player.fm/podcasts/wildlife](https://player.fm/podcasts/wildlife)). Report on what you learned.

8. **Analyze process for setting hunting regulations**  
   Pick a specific species and region and research the process that was used to determine the harvest regulations for that species. You might be surprised how variable that process can be for some species, especially those with limited knowledge.

9. **Take Hunter Safety Class**  
   Submit copy of certificate of completion as evidence. If you have already taken hunters safety, consider taking a specialized or advanced hunter class like archery or master hunter.

10. **Complete IACUC Training**  
    Contact [UAF IACUC](http://www.uaf.edu) to set up this training. Submit copy of completion certificate.

11. **Develop Resume**  
    Visit the [career center](http://www.uaf.edu) for guidance. I realize most of you are still developing your resume, so this exercise could provide a good template for where you need to fill in some blanks during your college career. Submit completed, which could include some blank sections like professional experience, resume.
12. **Bear Safety Training**
   Dealing with bears and other potentially dangerous wildlife is often a part of the work we do in the field. Complete a safety course and submit a certificate of completion.

13. **First Aid Training**
   Basic first aid skills and other more advanced training are more and more in demand for wildlife biologist. Complete some form of medical safety training (e.g., CPR, first aid, wilderness first responder) submit your certificate of completion.

14. **Outdoor Recreation Class** Staying in shape and having the skills to work safely and effectively in the field are essential parts of many wildlife jobs. Complete an outdoor recreation related course (e.g., hiking, mountaineering, snowmachine operation) and submit certificate of completion.

15. **Dog Training Seminar**
   Dogs are used for both research and management. Nils Pederson who lives in Fairbanks will be holding a dog training seminar in early November about how Karelian Bear dogs are used for these purposes. You may also be able to interact with local dog clubs or individuals about training. Please submit one page report about your experiences and thoughts on the use of dogs.

16. **Attend Meeting of Wildlife Group** Examples include Student Chapter of Wildlife Society or Ducks Unlimited and Alaska Trappers Association. Report on what you learned at the meeting.

17. **Other** (with instructor approval).

*All reports should be single spaced and use no larger than 12 point font.

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**Schedule**

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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>26 Aug</td>
<td>Introduction - See Getting Started Content</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2 Sep</td>
<td>What is the NA Model of Wildlife Management?</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>9 Sep</td>
<td>The importance of education and experience for wildlife biologist.</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>16 Sep</td>
<td>Career opportunities.</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>23 Sep</td>
<td>Participating as a professional.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>30 Sep</td>
<td>What is Science-Based Management?</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>7 Oct</td>
<td>Harvest Management: Managing an overabundant species (snow geese).</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>14 Oct</td>
<td>Midterm</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>21 Oct</td>
<td>Managing rare species.</td>
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<td>Date</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>28 Oct</td>
<td>Managing predators.</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>4 Nov</td>
<td>Habitat management - case study with Farm Bill.</td>
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<td>Human Dimensions.</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>18 Nov</td>
<td>Putting science, policy, and management together - adaptive management.</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>25 Nov</td>
<td>Thanksgiving, Moose Harvest Practicum</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>2 Dec</td>
<td>My role as a citizen.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 Dec</td>
<td></td>
<td>Finals</td>
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